## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 AID-05 /102 W

R 310405Z MAY 77
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7890
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR CH AF

SUBJ: CHINESE OFFICIAL'S COMMENTS ON AFRICAN POLICY

REF: PEKING 1078

1. GERMAN EMBASSY HAS TOLD US CONVERSATION THEY HAD IN APRIL WITH MME. LO HSU, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MFA'S AFRICAN DIVISION. INTERVIEW WAS REQUESTED IN PREPARATION FOR FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S TRIP TO AFRICA, AND, IN UNUSUAL MOVE FOR PRC, WAS QUICKLY GRANTED. (PRC NORMALLY DISCOURAGES FOREIGN EMBASSIES FROM CONTACTS WITH MFA REGIONAL BUREAUS OTHER THAN THOSE DEALING WITH THEIR OWN REGION.)

2. LO MADE USUAL ANTI-SOVIET PRESENTATION, POINTING OUT THAT MOSCOW'S PENETRATION OF AFRICAN CONTINENT WAS ALSO A DANGER FOR EUROPE. SHE THEN ENDORSED ASSISTANCE GIVEN MOBUTU GOVERNMENT BY FRANCE AND BELGIUM, AND CONFIDENTIAL

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SUGGESTED THAT FRG COULD DO MORE IN THIS REGARD. ACCORDING TO GERMANS, THOUGH, SHE MADE NO COMMENT ON AMERICAN POLICY OR ACTIONS IN REGION.

COMMENT: LO'S COMMENTS REINFORCE IMPRESSION LEFT BY NCNA MAY 24 COMMENTARY (REFTEL) AND BY SUBSEQUENT MAY 29 COMMENTARY THAT CHINESE LOOK INCREASINGLY

FAVORABLY ON EUROPEAN ASSISTANCE TO AFRICAN STATES FACED WITH SOVIET THREAT.

3. ASEKD WHICH OF THE RHODESIAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IS SUPPORTED BY PRC, LO SAID CHINESE POLICY WAS TO SUPPORT WHICHEVER LEADERS HAD SUPPORT OF ZIMBABWEAN PEOPLE. WHEN PRESSED ON POSSIBILITY THAT ONE OUTCOME OF LIBERATION STRUGGLE COULD BE STRENGTHENED POSITION FOR SOVIET UNION, SHE FELL BACK ON PROPOSITION THAT ANY SUCH SETBACK WOULD BE TEMPORARY AND THAT "CORRECT" AFRICAN LEADERSHIP WOULD EVENTUALLY EMERGE.

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Disposition Event:
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